

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/604,824

Examiner

Hoang-Vu A. Nguyen-Ba

Applicant(s)

SCHROEDER, JEFFREY C.

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief filed on 11/27/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 34-88 now re-numbered as 1-55.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Hoang-Vu A. Nguyen-Ba

ANTONY NGUYEN-BA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Examiner's Amendment and Statement of Reason(s) for Allowance

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Richard J. Gregson on February 18, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

At page 1, following the title insert the following paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims the benefit of provisional application No. 60/197,704, filed April 18, 2000. The content of aforementioned application is fully incorporated by reference.

In the Claims:

Claim 56

At line 3, before "operator" delete "the" and insert – an --.

Claim 75

At line 7, before "monitoring station" delete "the" and insert – a --.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

2. Claims 34-88, now re-numbered as 1-55, are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art of record, i.e., U.S. Patent No. 5,568,385 to Shelton and U.S. Patent No. 5,982,456 to Smith, Jr. et al. ("Smith") now made of record, taken singly or in combination, fail to teach or suggest a system and method for integrating weather data into television broadcast comprising, *inter alia*, the following features which are to be considered in combination with the remaining features of the respective independent claim:

means for converting the icon signals into television signals representing the weather parameters, the television signals being in a format suitable for integration into the television broadcast signals (in claims 34, 61 and 75);

production switching means for receiving the television signals representing the weather parameters and the television broadcast signals, and for combining the television signals representing the weather parameters and the television broadcast signals so that first icon signals representing first weather parameter signals sensed at a first geographic location are combined with first television broadcast signals from the first geographic location, and so that second icon signals representing second weather parameter signals sensed at a second geographic location different from the first geographic location are combined with second television broadcast signals from the second geographic location (in claims 34 and 75 – recited in the language of a method claim);

means coupled with the production switching means for selecting an output television signal corresponding to either the first icon signals representing the first weather parameter signals sensed at the first geographic location combined with the first television broadcast signals from the first geographic location or the second icon signals representing the second weather parameter signals sensed

at the second geographic location combined with the second television broadcast signals from the second geographic location (in claims 34 and 75 – recited in the language of a method claim);

wherein the monitoring station includes a microcontroller coupled to receive the weather parameter signals from the sensing means, and wherein the microcontroller includes means for sampling the weather parameter signals generated by the sensing means, and interrupt logic for servicing interrupts generated by the sampling means (in claim 61).

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoang-Vu “Antony” Nguyen-Ba whose telephone number is (571) 272-3701. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, John Miller can be reached at (571) 272-7353.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2600 Group receptionist (571) 272-2600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from

the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Hoang Anthony Nguyen Ba".

ANTONY NGUYEN-BA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

February 18, 2008